

Amendments to the Specification:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Replace paragraph [00010] with the following paragraph:

The charging current is preferably indirectly adjusted in that an electric resistance of the additional consuming device is adjusted. German Patent Document DE 197 28 589 C1 describes two suitable variants which may also be combined. According to the first variant, the additional consuming device, in this case, the auxiliary heater, has a plurality of parallel-connected heating elements which can be switched on and off individually. According to the second variant, the auxiliary heater has a power transistor, such as a MOSFET (metal oxide semiconductor field effect transistor) whose heating resistance can be adjusted by controlling a control input of the transistor. ~~However, in contrast to the teaching of German Patent Document DE 197 28 589 C1, the adjustment of the resistance is used for the adjustment of the charging current in the described manner.~~ As a result, on the one hand, a sufficient charging of the vehicle battery can be achieved and, on the other hand, because of the reduction of the charging current, in comparison to the maximally possible charging current, a more uniform supplying of the additional consuming device can be achieved. Furthermore, a generator with a lower nominal power can be used than when a power reserve has to be held for the event of high battery charging currents. On the whole, the generator is therefore better utilized.

Replace paragraph [00035] with the following paragraph:

During the controlling, the above-mentioned steps are carried out repeatedly. In this case, the charging current is permitted to fall briefly, [[or]]

because of inertias and/or during dead times, ~~of the controlling~~ below the limit value. However, if a continuous falling below the limit value is determined or one of the other conditions is no longer met, the controlling is deactivated and the additional consuming device is no longer supplied by the generator.